

Message Text

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12

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 AID-05 STR-04 OPIC-03 JUSE-00 /122 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9094

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 3674

DEPARTMENT PASS ALL OECD POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC, EINV

SUBJECT: INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP IN ILLICIT PAYMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 21134 NOTAL; (B) USUN 3303 NOTAL;
(C) GENEVA 6357 NOTAL; (D) STATE 196622 (E) MYERSON/
FELDMAN (L) TELECON

1. REFTEL D TRANSMITTED THE TEXT OF THE ECOSOC RESOLUTION
2041 (LXI) ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 1 (B) OF
THIS RESOLUTION CALLS FOR THE SELECTION OF AN EIGHTEEN-MEMBER
AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP. SINCE THE FIRST
MEETING OF THIS WORKING GROUP IS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 11-15,
IT WAS AGREED AT THE 61ST ECOSOC THAT THERE WOULD BE A RESUMED
ECOSOC SESSION EARLY DURING THE 31ST UNGA TO SELECT THE MEMBERS.
THE SECRETARIAT HAS NOW INFORMALLY ADVISED THAT THEY INTEND TO
ANNOUNCE IN THE SEPTEMBER 13 JOURNAL THAT THE RESUMED SESSION
WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24.

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2. IT WILL PROBABLY BE DIFFICULT TO AGREE WITHIN REGIONAL GROUPS ON MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORKING GROUP WITHIN THE EIGHTEEN-MAN FORMULA. FOR EXAMPLE, THIS WOULD ALLOW FOR ONLY SIX WEO MEMBERS (INCLUDING JAPAN). WHILE ONLY THE UK, JAPAN, AND THE NETHERLANDS HAVE OFFICIALLY INDICATED THEIR INTEREST IN SERVING ON THE WORKING GROUP, WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE WEO QUOTA WILL BE OVERSUBSCRIBED. THUS, IT WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE CONSULTATION WITHIN AND BETWEEN REGIONAL GROUPS TO FINALLY AGREE ON BOTH THE SIZE AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP. (AFTER EIGHTEEN, THE NEXT FORMULA WOULD BE A TWENTY-SEVEN-MAN GROUP WITH ELEVEN WEO MEMBERS.)

3. IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO HAVE THE WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF THEY ARE IN FACT TO PRODUCE ANY CONCRETE RESULTS BY THE 63RD ECOSOC. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL A, THE U.S. HAS A STRONG PREFERENCE FOR A GROUP OF EIGHTEEN AS VOTED BY ECOSOC, BUT WE COULD ACCEPT EXPANSION TO TWENTY-SEVEN IF NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE WEO'S OR OTHER REGIONAL GROUPS. OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE, HOWEVER, IS ASSURING THAT NEW YORK WEO MISSIONS ARE INSTRUCTED PROMPTLY SO THAT WE CAN BEGIN THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS IMMEDIATELY WITH THE HOPES OF REACHING AGREEMENT IN TIME FOR THE SEPTEMBER 24 RESUMED SESSION. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, WISH TO GET INVOLVED IN THE QUESTION OF WHICH COUNTRIES SHOULD BECOME CANDIDATES. USUN INTENDS EARLY NEXT WEEK TO URGE NEW YORK MISSIONS OF WEO COUNTRIES TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS WITH A VIEW TO DECISION ON WESTERN CANDIDATES AT REGULAR WEO DELEGATION MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 18. WE WILL KEEP THE DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS SO THAT APPROACHES IN CAPITALS CAN BE ARRANGED IF NECESSARY. FOR THE MOMENT, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT IS BEST TO PURSUE THE MATTER IN NEW YORK.

BENNETT

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ALL OECD POSTS.

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